

## REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in this application when examined. In the office action, the examiner rejected all the claims. In view of the remarks below, the applicant respectfully traverses the rejections, and requests that the claims be allowed.

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to correct obvious typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

New claims 9-19 have been added to further define the scope of the invention. No new matter has been added.

The applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance in light of the arguments set forth below. Accordingly, the applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn and a notice of allowance be issued.

### 1. Examiner's rejections of claims 1-8 are traversed

In the office action, the examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,556,033 (hereinafter "Kazama"). The applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Under Federal Circuit law, "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Claim 1 of the present application recites, in part, "said electroconductive coil springs being installed in said holder holes so as to be *substantially unstressed* [emphasis added] under a rest condition of said contact probe." In the office action, the examiner took the position that Kazama disclosed the limitation of the coil spring

being substantially unstressed. That reading of Kazama is not supported by the disclosure of Kazama. In fact, Kazama discloses that the compression coil spring is “in a compressed state under a prescribed pre-load.” (Kazama: col. 3, lines 36-38) Therefore, as Kazama does not teach every element in claim 1 of the present invention, the applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(e) be withdrawn.

As claims 2-8 depend on claim 1, the above remarks for claim 1 are reiterated with respect to claims 2-8. Claims 2-8 are accordingly allowable for at least the reasons of dependency. The applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 2-8 be withdrawn.

2. New claims 9-19 have been added

To better define the scope of the invention, the applicant has added a new claim 9 that depends on claim 1. Furthermore, the applicant has added a new independent claim 10, and new claims 11-19 that depend on claim 10. Support for the new claims is found in the specification as filed, and no new matter has been added. The applicant respectfully submits that these claims are in condition for allowance.

3. Correction of the invention title in the PTO records is requested

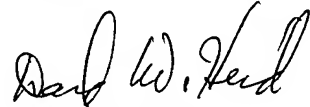
The applicant notes that both the previously received Notice of Publication of Application dated October 27, 2005, as well as the “Title of Invention” entry in the PAIR database, incorrectly state the title of the present invention to be “Conductive contact,” whereas the correct title of the invention as originally filed is “Electroconductive contact probe.” (see originally filed specification and declaration) The applicant respectfully requests that the PTO records be corrected to reflect the correct title of the present invention.

CONCLUSION

The applicant respectfully requests the examiner to withdraw the rejections of the claims in this application, and to issue a notice of allowance for all pending claims. If the examiner has any questions, he is requested to call the attorney for applicant at the (408)-392-9250.

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Respectfully submitted,



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